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## (54) Method and apparatus for determining an optimum print density using printhead memory data in an ink jet printer

(57) A method and apparatus for determining an optimum print density for an ink jet printer (130) uses characteristics of a printer (130) and its peripheral components such as an ink jet printhead (120), and an ink supply unit (110) to reach an optimum print density. The ink jet printer (130) receives a print command from a computer (100). The printer (130) reads an ink drop volume parameter from a printhead memory device (121) on the ink jet printer (130). The processor (131) in the printer (130) determines an ink density compensation value for the ink jet printhead (120) based on the ink drop volume parameter. The processor (131) on the ink jet printer (130) applies the ink density compensation value to the print command, thereby creating a depleted print command. Finally, the depleted print command is printed.

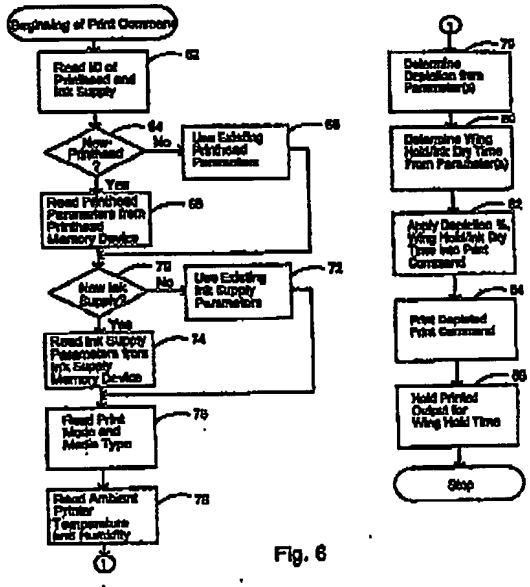


Fig. 6



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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 30 1801

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